

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No. 02-184-C)

Appl. No. : 10/804,631 Confirmation No. 7851
Applicant : Michael J. Burns
Filed : 03/19/2004
Art Unit : 3693
Examiner : Jessica Lemieux

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner,

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough search and examination of the present application and the allowance of the pending claims. In the Notice of Allowance mailed on May 21, 2010 in connection with the present application, the Examiner provided a Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

The Applicants acknowledge the characterization of the claims in view of the prior art put forth in the Reasons for Allowance. However, the Applicants respectfully submit that the Reasons for Allowance may not take into account the entirety of the Applicants' claimed invention as reflected in the claims, the specification, and the prosecution history of the present application. The Applicants believe that the claims, the specification, and the prosecution history in their entirety provide an adequate basis for the allowability of the claims. The Applicants note that there may be additional reasons that one or more of the claims are allowable that have not been specifically included in the Reasons for Allowance. The Applicants respectfully submit that, notwithstanding the Reasons for Allowance, it is believed that each of the allowed claims is patentable in its own right, for other reasons raised during prosecution and/or explained in the Specification of the present application.

Additionally, specific parts of the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance may pertain to features appearing in some of the claims but not others. The Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has thoroughly examined the claims, recognized the features appearing or not appearing in each of the claims, and properly found each of the claims to be allowable.

To the extent that the Examiner has paraphrased claim elements, the Applicants hereby respectfully submit that each allowed claim of the present application should be construed in view of the entirety of that claim and limited neither by any of the Examiner's statements nor by the recitation therein of any specific claim elements.

Further, the Reasons for Allowance include statements regarding the disclosure of certain pieces of art. While the Applicants may not necessarily agree with these characterizations of what is disclosed by the art, the Applicants agree with the Examiner that the claims are allowable over the disclosure of the cited art.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 28, 2010

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